REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Claims:

Claims 1-36 were presented for examination.

Claims 5-13, 16-35 were considered allowable if rewritten in independent form including base and intervening claim limitations. Claims 5 and 16 have been amended to include limitations of base Claims 1 and 15. Claims 6-13, 17-35 depend directly or indirectly from thus allowable Claim 1 or 15.

Claims 1-4, 14, 15 and 36 were rejected as being unpatentable over Conover U.S. Patent No. 6,169,581. Claim 1 was also provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 5 of copending Application No. 10/713,714.

Claims 1 and 15 have been cancelled. Claims 2 – 4 and 14 have been amended to depend from allowable Claim 5. Claim 36 has been amended to depend from allowable Claim 16.

Claims 6, 10, 17 – 35 have been amended in non-substantive way, to add a comma after the claim number from which they depend, for consistency with the use of such comma in other claims.

Accordingly, request is made for reconsideration of the application, and allowance of the claims as amended.

Respectfully submitted,

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